

YOUR PARKLAND

2024 SUMMER

Keeping you connected with your County

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Cover photo: Cooper and O'Hara, Hubbles Lake

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UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

JULY 1 – Canada Day

AUGUST 5 – Heritage Day

SEPTEMBER 2 – Labour Day



PEMBINA RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK,
COOPER AND O'HARA



NORTHERN LIGHTS AT HASSE LAKE,
THERESA MUTH PHOTOGRAPHY

**Have a photo of Parkland County
you'd like to share?** Email it to
communications@parklandcounty.com



REACH OUT OR FOLLOW US:

Find out more on what's happening in Parkland
County, follow us or visit parklandcounty.com

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PROCLAMATIONS

www.parklandcounty.com/Proclamations



Parkland County Mayor and Council (left to right): Councillor Natalie Birnie, Councillor Allan Hoefsloot, Councillor Sally Kucher Johnson, Mayor Allan Gamble, Councillor Phyllis Kobasiuk, Councillor Kristina Kowalski, Councillor Rob Wiedeman.

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

As residents of Parkland County, we always look forward to our beautiful summers. The County comes alive with adventurers visiting our parks, trekking the trails and splashing in our many lakes. It is a great time to be outside and take in all that the serene atmosphere of Parkland County has to offer. We hope you have a wonderful summer exploring, relaxing and soaking in the sun on hot summer days. Learn about some great places to discover throughout the County this summer on our new tourism website, www.exploreparkland.ca, or read page 17.

Throughout the summer, the County is continuing with hard work on many ongoing projects, which you can find updates on in this newsletter. Read on to learn more about fun community events, information on programs and supports, emergency preparedness tips and more.

Parkland County Council is committed to transparency and openness with our community. As we plan for future budgets, we are seeking input from County residents on what matters to you. Please take our Budget Engagement Survey so we can hear your thoughts! More on page 7.

If you're a small business in the County, let us lend a neighbourly hand to assist in sprucing up your storefront over the next few months with our Business Revitalization Program. Learn more on page 22.

Thank you to all our residents who call Parkland County home. We appreciate your support as we work to ensure that Parkland remains a wonderful community to live, work and play.

Parkland County Mayor and Council

We acknowledge that we are located on the lands of Treaty 6 which is the traditional home of the Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota Sioux nations, members of the Métis nations of Alberta, Inuit and all First Nations sharing this land for generations. We recognize the long history and contributions of Indigenous peoples who've cared for this land from time immemorial to the present. We acknowledge that we are all treaty people bound to one another by the spirit and intent of treaty as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the river flows.

WHAT'S NEW IN PARKLAND COUNTY



Slow down, move over

Both the County's Fire Services and Health and Safety departments have collaborated on a pilot project that will help enforce Alberta's roadside worker safety rules. These rules, which were introduced in September 2023, aim to protect roadside workers such as tow trucks, first responders and maintenance vehicles with the addition of flashing lights. Drivers in the lane closest to the stopped vehicle must slow down to 60 km/h or the posted speed limit (whichever is lower). In addition, drivers are encouraged to move into the furthestmost lanes.

The County will combine the flashing radar sign with other safety equipment to warn motorists that they are nearing a stopped emergency vehicle and should slow down when passing.

Radar signs are now in service and residents can expect to see them used out on the roads.

“ Parkland County cares deeply about its residents and workers. Together, we can make sure that everyone gets home safely. We're not just sharing the road, but the responsibility of keeping our emergency workers protected,”

— Trevor Sutherley, Deputy Fire Chief.



Congrats to the 2023 fire recruits!

It is brave and enduring individuals like these who the County needs and relies on to keep our community safe and we are grateful for their sacrifice and commitment.

A GRAND RE-OPENING

In April, Parkland County Council and staff celebrated the grand re-opening of the Gainford Hotel's Iron Lady Saloon. Councillor Allan Hoefsloot presented owner Nancy Power with a plaque in recognition of their re-opening.

The Gainford Hotel has been a landmark in the community since it originally opened back in 1958. The County is thrilled that it is once again offering a place for residents and those passing by to sit down, relax and enjoy some good food.



60 YEARS OF FIRE SERVICE

One man has been with Parkland County Fire Services since the very beginning. This year, Fire Services celebrates its 60th anniversary and with this, Bill Purdy celebrates 60 years of service.

Purdy has been a dedicated member of the County's Fire Services since its infancy and has witnessed its growth over the years.

In 1962, Purdy and other apprentice engineers working at TransAlta's Wabamun Plant came to the Municipal District of Stony Plain's Wabamun council to highlight the need for fire services to protect the area.

Two years later, the Fire Services department was created with Purdy acting as a volunteer firefighter along with 21 others. Purdy witnessed the early stages of Fire Services, which had a limited number of resources and various other challenges. Fire

Services did not have sirens, the call system was limited to a party-line system and the firetruck only sat two people.

Throughout the decades, Fire Services developed and evolved with the former village, shifting to accommodate increasing needs for fire protection and emergency services. The fire department was provided with essential equipment that allowed firefighters to begin undertaking water and ice rescue operations.

In recent years, Purdy has adopted a more advisory role. By relying on his experience, he helps inform decisions that bolster Fire Services and provides recommendations on resources and training required to respond to the County's needs.

“As far as I'm concerned, our training is number one in Alberta,” he says. “Each year, we have a recruit class of up to 30 people that are trained up and then designated to Wabamun, Tomahawk, Acheson or Parkland Village.”

“We are incredibly grateful to Bill for his many years of dedicated service,” says Parkland County Fire Chief Brian Cornforth. “He has done amazing things for our Fire Services and will continue to be someone we lean on for wisdom and advice.”

Purdy expresses appreciation for his involvement and looks forwards to what the future holds for Parkland's Fire Services.



(Left to right) Councillor Rob Wiedeman, Bill Purdy, Brian Cornforth, Mayor Allan Gamble

Mental Health Champion



Andrea Wichuk

Andrea Wichuk, a firefighter with Parkland County's Fire Services, has been selected as a 2023 Mental Health Champion recipient by the Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment (CIPSRT).

Over 200 nominations were received and Wichuk was selected along with 19 other recipients for their profound work in peer support and fostering environments of well-being in their workplaces.

Wichuk acts as the lead for Parkland County's Fire Services Peer Support team but has also done extensive work with the Alberta Critical Incident Peer Support Network. In particular, she promotes peer support among firefighters who may be susceptible to stressors that can impact their mental health, physical health and general well-being. Wichuk utilizes evidence-based resources, training materials and protocols to create a peer support system that positively impacts firefighters. She recognizes that peer support requires compassion and

understanding, especially due to stigmas surrounding mental health that might prevent firefighters from seeking aid and support from their peers.

Her work is specialized, particularly in terms of supporting firefighters. Wichuk acknowledges there is no "one-size-fits-all" approach for addressing mental health struggles. Rather, she advocates for a mindful approach that recognizes the specific needs of a group and its members.

Parkland County would like to congratulate Wichuk for her prominent role in leading our Fire Services Peer Support Team and reinforcing a Peer Support system built on compassion, camaraderie and mental well-being.



Welcome local pollinators

Parkland County's Agriculture and Environment Services team is excited to be hosting the opportunity for our residents to learn more about native pollinators and urban beekeeping during the 2024 growing season. We will welcome local pollinators by providing a honeybee hive at the Acheson Fire Hall, as well as native bee homes at Chickakoo Lake.

The ALUS Parkland program can help eligible farmers and ranchers develop pollinator habitat on suitable land within their agricultural operation; this helps to produce ecosystem services through nature-based solutions. To learn more about the County's beehives and upcoming interactive workshops at one of our hives, visit myhive.alveole.buzz/parkland-county



BUDGET ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Parkland County is conducting a survey to inform the upcoming budget process!

Realizing the County's vision from year-to-year means delivering the right variety of programs and services to residents that are both relevant and cost-effective. The budget is prepared in a way that balances the service delivery expectations of residents with their ability and willingness to pay for those services. Getting feedback from residents on community priorities allows the County to appropriately allocate budget dollars to ensure residents are getting value for their tax dollars.

Participation is important and the information gathered will be shared with Council to inform future decisions and budget development.

Head to www.parklandcounty.com/Budget to take the survey and share your feedback with us! Survey closes July 5, 2024.

Take the 15-minute survey and be entered to win a \$500 pre-paid Mastercard.

Open to only Parkland County residents.



FINANCIAL REPORT

The Annual Financial Report for 2023 will be available at www.parklandcounty.com/AnnualReport. The purpose of this report is to offer clear insight into the financial results of the County. The consolidated financial statements were prepared by an independent auditor and approved by Council on April 23, 2024.

Every effort has been made to ensure the statements present a fair accounting of the County's consolidated operations which include the County's portion of the Tri Leisure Facility, the Parkland County Library Board and the financial effects of the extensive wildfire fighting efforts. Please review the information contained within the report for further details.



COMMUNITY LEAGUES

Community Leagues are vital in creating and sustaining vibrant communities. Parkland County's 26 Community Leagues have a diverse group of volunteers who provide community recreation and culture opportunities through a variety of programs, events and recreation amenities — each one unique to the immediate community they serve.

Want to get involved? Please contact your local community league if you are interested in joining, volunteering or participating in one of the wonderful events that they host!

For more info on Community Leagues near you, visit parklandcounty.com/CommunityLeagues

Community Events

If you're looking to connect with your community or want to advertise a community event, be sure to check out our Community Events Calendar at events.parklandcounty.com



SWEET SUMMERTIME IN PARKLAND COUNTY

Get out and explore Parkland County
this summer at one of our parks, trails or
natural areas.

www.parklandcounty.com/Parks

Community Events

LADYBUG RELEASE

July 9, 1 pm, Wabamun Library, 5132 – 53 Avenue



Aphids are common garden pests, but they can also affect agricultural crops. Their see-through bodies are usually green, red, black, yellow or white. They are pear-shaped insects with long antennae and two cornicles (short tubes) sticking out on either side of their stomachs.

Unfortunately, drought-like conditions can increase stress on plants, making them more susceptible to aphid infestations. These insects can cause a general decline in the health of plants and can also carry harmful plant viruses. They can affect squash, cucumber, pumpkin and many other commonly grown plants.

To help control aphid populations, you can use a safe method known as “biocontrol.” Join us

at the Wabamun Library on July 9 at 1 pm to learn and see how ladybugs (natural predators of aphids) can be used as a form of biocontrol. There will be a short presentation followed by a ladybug release in the library gardens. At the end, there will be containers of live ladybugs that you’ll be able to take with you and use in your gardens!

If you are wondering how to naturally increase ladybugs in your yard, try these tips:

- Maintain leaf litter and use natural materials in landscaping to provide habitat for them.
- Ladybugs prefer flat-topped flowers that are brightly colored (i.e. white, yellow, orange) and fragrant herbs.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DAY

July 20, West Central Fire Station,
4820 – 52 Ave, Wabamun

A fun filled event for the community to engage with our Fire Services staff and learn about Emergency Preparedness and FireSmart. There will be emergency vehicles, prizes, giveaways and a BBQ!

Visit our website’s Community Events Calendar for more details closer to the date.

FALLIS COMMUNITY HALL’S 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

July 13, Range Road 52 and Highway 16
Time: 11 am – 4 pm

Attend the 75th milestone anniversary celebration of the Fallis Community Hall! It will be a fun-filled family day with many activities. Follow their Facebook page at “Fallis Community Association” to stay updated on the event.

Parkland County Libraries: Summer Schedule

DUFFIELD LIBRARY: BBQ EVENT

July 8, Duffield Hall

Time: 3 – 6 pm

- Featuring entertainer Mary Lambert
- Free BBQ
- Games, crafts and puppet show
- STEM activities

WABAMUN LIBRARY: FOAM PARTY

July 11, Coal Diamond Park

Time: 2 – 5 pm

- Foam party with spray unit
- Games, crafts and kites
- STEM activities
- Free BBQ

KEEPHILLS LIBRARY: OBSTACLE COURSE

July 17, Keephills Hall

Time: 3 – 6 pm

- 100 ft inflatable obstacle course
- Games, crafts and kites
- STEM activities
- Free BBQ

TOMAHAWK LIBRARY: FOAM PARTY

July 31, Tomahawk Agra Centre

Time: 3:30 – 6:30 pm

- Foam party with spray unit
- Games, crafts and kites
- STEM activities
- Free BBQ

MOBILE-LIBRARY SCHEDULE

Check and see if one of the mobile libraries will be visiting your neighbourhood. The mobile libraries offer services such as free books, library returns, kids’ activities and library card registry. If you can’t spot our mobile library on location, call or text 780-966-4960.

AUGUST 6

Wabamun Provincial Park

Time: 10 am – 12 pm

AUGUST 7

Chickakoo Lake Recreation Area

Time: 9 am – 11 am

Muir Lake Rec area

Time: 11 am – 12 pm

Muir Lake School and area (Twp Rd 540)

Time: 12 pm – 2 pm

AUGUST 8

Blueberry Hall and Beach Corner

Time: 9 am – 10 am

Duffield area (South of Hwy 16)

Time: 10 am – 11 am

Duffield area (North of Hwy 16)

Time: 11 am – 12 pm

AUGUST 12

Tomahawk area (Twp Rd 512, Tower Acres)

Time: 10 am – 11 am

Moon Lake Hall

Time: 11 am – 12 pm

AUGUST 13

Trestle Creek, Old Entwistle

Time: 10 am – 11 am

Pembina River Provincial Park

Time: 11 am – 12 pm

AUGUST 15

Constable Chelsey Robinson Park

Time: 10 am – 12 pm

Keephills area

Time: 12 pm – 1 pm

ARE YOU READY?

MAKE A PLAN

BUILD A KIT

STAY INFORMED

PREPARE
NOW —
LEARN HOW!



SUMMER SAFETY TIPS



To be prepared, you need to know what to do, where to go and have enough supplies for a week or more. Preparing in advance can keep you safe and comfortable and help you get back to your normal life and work routine as quickly as possible.

STAYING PREPARED

Evacuations are not new to residents of Alberta. In 2023, we saw a record number of communities evacuated across the province. Evacuations can be challenging and stressful, leaving many residents feeling frustrated and anxious. Below are some great tips and tricks you can do beforehand to better prepare yourself for an evacuation:

MAKE A PLAN

- ✓ **Keep your vehicle topped up**
It is always important to keep your vehicle topped up to a minimum half a tank or more of gas.
- ✓ **Plan for pets**
Many of us have household pets who are part of the family. As such, we should be planning for them as well. Be sure to include food and water for them in your go-bag.
- ✓ **Livestock Plans**
If you choose to evacuate and you have livestock, ensure you have a plan in place that includes trailers, resources, or other means of transportation.
- ✓ **Documentation**
In the event you need to evacuate, make sure you have available and any important documents you will require with you.

BUILD A KIT

- ✓ **Pack a 72 hr 'go-bag'**
History tells us that 72 hours is the average time an evacuee might have until a more permanent solution to sustained resources may be available.
- ✓ **Alternate forms of currency**
Cash is king during an emergency and it's good to keep some currency on hand in the event of a power outage, or if wherever you end up evacuating to does not have the ability to process a debit card.

STAY INFORMED

- ✓ **Emergency communication**
Build out your communications network to those who might live outside the impact zone.
- ✓ **Charge your communication devices**
Make sure throughout the day that your cell phone and/or laptop is charged and bring chargers with you.



Wildfires are always a risk, but there are ways you can prepare. Residents in Parkland County can get a free FireSmart Home Assessment to learn how to protect their homes from wildfires. Visit www.parklandcounty.com/FireSmart

FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC).

CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)

Secure your property by having it inspected by a trained officer who'll provide a report on how to make it less of a target for crime. Call our Enforcement Services to book at 780-968-8400.



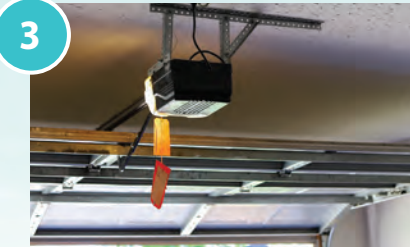
Daily Duties

Ask a trusted friend or family member to periodically check on your home. Ensure that your mail, packages and deliveries are paused or picked up daily and that your garbage bins are put out for collection as scheduled. Provide your trusted contact with all security alarm information and other vital information including a house key — don't hide one!



Light it up and lock it down

Set up motion sensor lights and use timers for interior lights and televisions. Ensure all gates, fences, doors and windows are secured and keep valuables out of sight. Cut back vegetation around each entry point to the house and garage to increase visibility.



Guard your Garage

Unplug your garage door opener or lock the overhead door track. Remove any valuables and keep vehicle doors locked with the keys secured inside the house. Make sure any doors leading from the garage into the house are locked as well.



Valuable Advice

Create a detailed record of valuables, including make, model and serial number of items along with a photo. Consider leaving important papers or expensive jewelry in a safety deposit box. Check in with your insurance company to make sure you are meeting their requirements for extended absences if applicable.



Social Savvy

While it's exciting to look forward to a long-awaited vacation, resist the temptation to post details of any upcoming travel plans on social media — you'll be giving thieves a heads up of when you'll be gone. Wait until you're home to share photos and details of your adventures abroad.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



National Indigenous Peoples Day

Join us June 21 from 5 – 9 pm at Rotary Park, Spruce Grove. There will be a round dance, Indigenous market, BBQ, demonstrations including Métis dancers, jingle/powwow dancers, foraging demonstration, muskeg tea and bannock samples and Métis history.

Tipi teachings, prayer ties and smudge offerings will also take place. Shuttle services will be available to and from the Tri Leisure Centre parking lot. Visit www.skydancerindigenous.com for more details.



Our Third Annual Open Air Movie!

Join us September 20 for a family-friendly movie night at Wabamun's Coal Diamond Sports Park. Movie will start at sunset. Non-perishable food donation as entry fee. Concession, games and more!

Movie: TBA



BRIDGING CONNECTIONS

This program operates Wednesdays from 9 am – 12 pm at the Wabamun Community Centre and consists of Community Social Workers who are dedicated professionals offering compassionate and confidential support. Community Social Workers actively listen to individuals, identify solutions and facilitate connections to pertinent community resources.

Bridging Connections also offers short-term counselling sessions the first Wednesday of every month for residents aged 16+.

Call 780-962-7618 to book an appointment or drop in.

Seniors' Shuttle

This service offers weekly transportation for Parkland County seniors (65+) and those with disabilities from Entwistle and Wabamun to various locations.

Join us for one of our summer field trips!

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA BOTANIC GARDENS

July 22

Visit the gardens from 10 am – 2 pm
Senior 65+ admission: \$13.50
Café on site

STONY PLAIN & PARKLAND PIONEER MUSEUM

August 19

Visit the museum from 10 am – 12 pm
Museum admission: FREE
Stopping for lunch from 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

*Departure for fields trips is TBD, pending ridership

Book your seat by calling 780-727-3947 or visit www.parklandcounty.com/Shuttle for more information.



SUMMER CAMPS

Registrations for summer camps are accepted until the Friday prior to camp start dates. Sign the kids up for summer activities, games, challenges and crafts!

Visit www.parklandcounty.com/SummerCamps for dates and locations.



Upcoming Council Meetings

Stay up to date with Council meeting agendas, recaps and more by subscribing to receive email updates at www.parklandcounty.com/Meetings

COUNCIL MEETINGS

GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

PARKLAND COUNTY'S SMALL LAKES

The Carvel Pitted Delta

One of Parkland County's best-kept secrets is its hundreds of small lakes and wetlands scattered across the western and northern areas. Some of them, like Spring, Jackfish and Hubbles Lake, have been heavily developed while others, many unnamed, remain largely pristine aside from a few cottages or year-round homes. Those with public access are popular with Albertans as year-round destinations for boating, fishing, trail riding and other outdoor recreational pursuits.

These water bodies all owe their existence to retreating continental glaciers that left behind a rough, hummocky landscape dotted with numerous water-filled depressions about 12,000 years ago. Known to geologists as the Carvel Pitted Delta, the region consists of a mosaic of boreal and aspen forests which. With its characteristic lakes and wetlands, it is an oasis of natural beauty and diversity.

Did you know one of Council's strategic priorities is to develop a framework to strengthen our policy around the conservation of Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs)?

There are 18 ESAs within the Carvel Pitted Delta according to Parkland County's Environmental Master Plan. These ESAs vary greatly in size and complexity, ranging from streams to larger open water wetlands, lakes, uplands and mixed forests. Each one provides its own suite of ecological services and in many cases, critical habitat for biodiversity. Data collected from area monitoring could be useful in efforts to conserve and protect Parkland County's natural biodiversity.

In Alberta, lakes and wetlands are administered as Crown-owned resources by the Province. However, many small water bodies, such as those in Parkland County, are surrounded by private land. This places some responsibility for the conservation of these lakes on the residents whose properties contain or adjoin them.

As a lakefront property owner in Parkland County, there are measures you can take to help look after our lakes. In some cases, this means doing simple things like:

- Controlling invasive plant species and plant native trees
- Limiting fertilizer use to help reduce nutrient runoff into water bodies
 - visit www.yourparkland.ca/Fertilizer

If you are wondering how to conserve important environmental features on your property on a larger scale, you could consider a "conservation easement." A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement that allows a landowner to intentionally manage their land with environmental conservation in mind while still being able to use and sell it in the future.

Not surprisingly, landowners in Parkland County have proven to be knowledgeable and committed lake stewards. In 2018, one conservation-minded resident, Ellen Andreassen, invited David Trew, a retired provincial water scientist and member of the Mayatan Lake Management Association (MLMA) to look at Idano Lake, located southeast of the Chickakoo Lake Recreation Area.

On seeing Idano lake for the first time, Trew immediately recognized that it was special. Compared to most small lakes in central Alberta, Idano is deep with clean, clear water and surrounded by largely intact forest. Idano also has an active outlet stream, meaning that the lake is possibly being fed by springs. Trew summed up his impressions of Idano in one word: "Stunning!"

As it turns out, there are other such lakes in Parkland County that share the same characteristics: deep and clear water, forested shorelines, active outflows and comparatively little human development. Trew and his MLMA colleagues wondered what factors set these lakes apart from the others in the region. To answer that question, Trew, with MLMA members Walt Neilson and Dave Mussel, initiated a regional survey of Parkland's small lakes, with funding and assistance from organizations such as Land Stewardship Centre Canada, Parkland County, the Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS), the University of Alberta and others.

Since 2020, the survey has expanded to include some 80 water bodies in Parkland County including lakes, wetlands and a small number of agricultural dugouts with the help of ALUS program participants. The majority of these have been sampled for nearly 50 environmental parameters, mapped using sonar and documented with images and video.

The information gathered by the MLMA has begun to yield important insights about the hydrology and biology of these lakes, the effect of natural and human factors on water volume and quality

and potential actions that could keep them healthy. This information is being shared with County residents and landowners, Parkland County staff and the Province of Alberta.

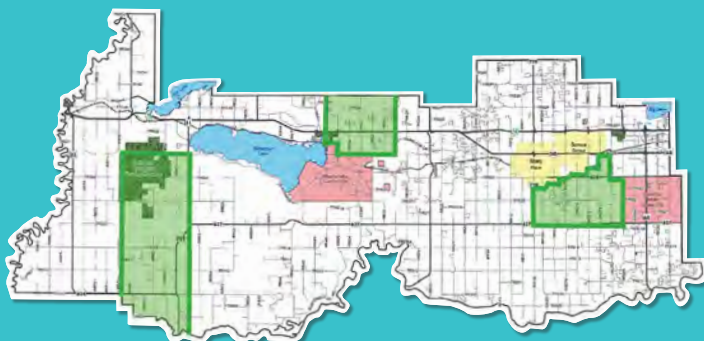
To follow the progress of this project and learn more about the small lakes of Parkland County, visit www.parklandcounty.com/waterfrontliving



Weed Control Program

Not all plants are good. There are specific weeds you cannot leave unmanaged on your property. These weeds, designated as “prohibited noxious and noxious” under the Alberta Weed Control Act, can spread rapidly and cause serious problems. Property owners are responsible for controlling these plants on their property.

As shown in the image below, we have selected areas of the County where we will focus our resources for 2024. We will start by controlling weeds on County lands and then begin assessing private properties. Properties with noxious and prohibited noxious weeds will be inspected and given recommendations for control.



Where AGRICULTURE & NATURE meet



For more information, contact your local ALUS program coordinator:
Chad Ritter
ALUS Coordinator, Parkland County
780-968-8888 ext. 8286
chad.ritter@parklandcounty.com



Agricultural Bursaries

Agricultural Services is providing up to five bursaries of \$500 to students residing in the County who are attending university, community college, or any other recognized post-secondary institution and are enrolled in an agriculture-based program. Application deadline: September 20, 2024, at 4:30 pm. Visit www.parklandcounty.com/Scholarships to learn more.

Roadside mowing

Roadside mowing occurs over the summer and is completed with safety and weed control as the top priorities. Due to the large land base of the County and the size of our mower fleet, some roads may not be mowed until later in the season. Each year, mowers are sent to different sections of the County and spread out on a rotational basis. Collector roads are given priority and are mowed more than once per season for safety considerations on high traffic roads.

We are not able to determine exactly when mowers will arrive in a specific area. Please ensure that all road signs without a permit are removed. Parkland County will remove and dispose of any unpermitted signs left within the road allowance.



Planting for the future

In May, Parkland County's Agriculture and Environment Services along with Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society (AWES), planted 20,000 trees in areas affected by the Range Road 70 fire through the federal 2 Billion Trees program grant. Parkland County has been reforesting fire-reclaimed areas with native trees to ensure that rejuvenation of the areas occurs and that impacts to wildlife, soil disturbances, erosion and water quality are minimal.

Nearly 106,000 saplings have been planted in the County since 2023, with volunteers and public workshops having planted 4,000 of those!



Share the road

Farmers are busy at work, so be sure to keep an eye out and share the road with large farm equipment. Please keep your distance, be patient and make sure kids know to keep a safe distance when using the road for activities such as biking or walking.



ARE YOU READY TO EXPLORE PARKLAND COUNTY?

PICTURE THIS:

Start your day by getting lost, in a fun way! It's Saturday morning, the sun is shining and you're off to visit the Edmonton Corn Maze and make your way through the intricate paths to the finish line. While you're there, check out the locally produced farm market for fresh produce from Alberta food producers. Be sure to bring a cooler to keep it fresh so you can continue your adventure in the afternoon. If you check out the maze in late September, you can even select your own pumpkin and whip up some homemade pie — yum!

If you've worked your way through the maze, you may be hungry for some lunch with your friends and family. The adventure continues, not far off in east Parkland County, as you head over to the University of Alberta Botanic Garden and enjoy some lunch at the Patio Café. From June to September, the botanic garden is open from 10 am – 6 pm every day.

After filling up, be sure to take a leisurely walk through this mesmerizing location to enjoy this botanical gem, plus expand your horticultural knowledge. Their cultural gardens offer an array of visuals ranging from authentic Japanese design to an Indigenous Peoples Garden, indoor showhouses and much more! Bring your cameras, wear comfortable footwear and dress for the weather.

If you want some sweet serenity to end your day, you can bring your local produce over to the Jackfish Lake Boat Launch and Recreation Area. Hang out at the beach, enjoy some swimming and head over to the picnic area.

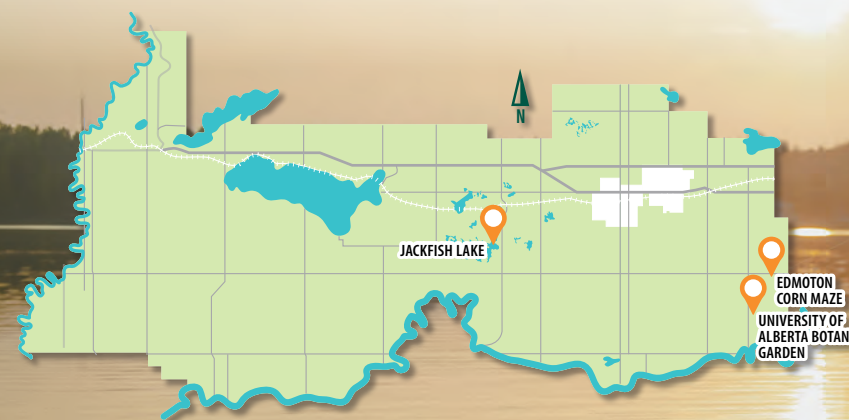
From picturesque trails to endless rural recreation opportunities, there is so much to see and do in Parkland County! Check out www.exploreparkland.com for more.

WINNERS IN TOURISM

We're thrilled to announce that on April 10, Parkland County Council and our Economic Diversification team had the honour of attending the prestigious 50th Economic Developers Alberta conference in Kananaskis. Guess what? We brought home some exciting news!

Parkland County's Explore Parkland project was selected as winner for the Community Awards of Excellence, under the category of Economic Development Renewal Projects (medium-sized communities)!

We're excited about the positive impact this project will continue to have in attracting visitors to Explore Parkland County and support our business community.



EXPLORE
PARKLAND



HERE'S THE SCOOP! ICE CREAM IN THE COUNTY

There's no better way to beat the heat than enjoying a cold, sweet treat. If you're looking for a way to satisfy your sweet tooth and cool down, check out these spots:

DAILY SCOOP AT BEACH CORNER

53101 Range Road 15

Over 30 flavours to choose from,
milkshakes of any flavour and
mini donuts.

THE YELLOW SUBMARINE

5126 51 Ave, Wabamun

Scooping up ice cream 7 days a week while also serving calzones, pizza, donairs and more.

SEBA BEACH MINI GOLF AND ICE CREAM STOP

145 – 4 Street, Seba Beach

Enjoy a scoop of ice cream and a round of mini golf.

**WILDFLOWER
FARM STORE**

51424A Highway 60

Grab a cone on your way to stroll the nearby Botanic Gardens which is just up the road.



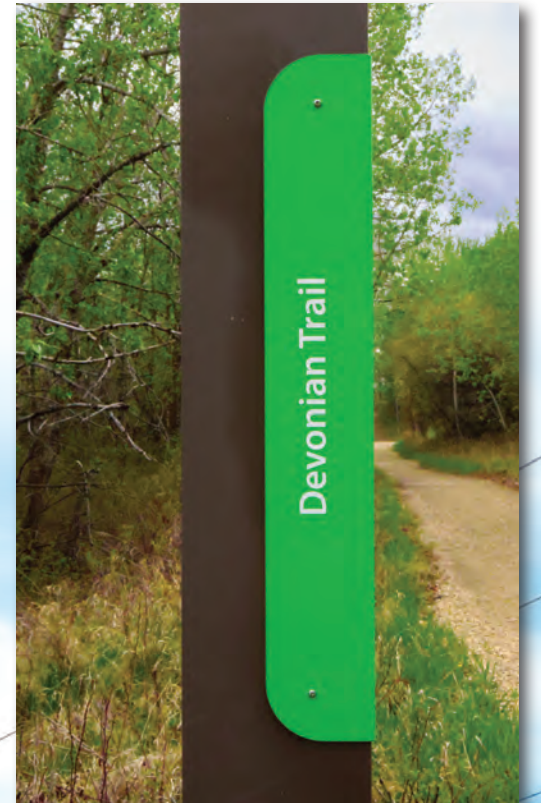
Amisko Wacîw Mêskanaw
Beaver Hill Road

Looking for some summer adventure? Consider exploring the Amisko Wacîw Mêskanaw trail, also known as Beaver Hill Road.

The River Valley is a fantastic area to explore year-round and the trail starts right here in Parkland County! The River Valley Alliance (RVA) hosts community events along the entire trail throughout the year. Check out their website for upcoming events at www.rivervalley.ab.ca

The RVA is a not-for-profit organization created by the six municipalities that border the North Saskatchewan River in the Edmonton Metropolitan region: the Town of Devon, Parkland County, the City of Edmonton, Strathcona County, the City of Fort Saskatchewan and Sturgeon County. The RVA's ultimate goal is to create the longest river valley pedestrian trail in North America. In close collaboration with Naheyawin, an Indigenous-led company, the RVA sought input from a diverse range of Indigenous voices to guide the naming process.

The trail's chosen name, graciously gifted in a ceremony by Elder Jerry Saddleback, who also offered his guidance and advice to the RVA, is in nêhiyawêwin, the Cree language. This name invites everyone to "sing the song" of the River Valley and nurture a deeper sense of responsibility and belonging for all who traverse the trail.



Love Where You Live

Connect with your community this summer by hosting a Love Where You Live event! Parkland County's Block Party Program is here to help with our planning guide, funding, Fun Bag loan and other resources. Events must be held at a residential address or public space and be open to all who live in your neighbourhood.

As friendships grow, so do safe and caring communities. Apply online at www.parklandcounty.com/LoveWhereYouLive



Splash into summer at the Entwistle Outdoor Pool!

Located at Entwistle Community Recreation Centre (4916 – 51 Street), the pool features a four-lane swimming pool, beach area with spray toys, a diving board and water slide.

Swim lessons are also offered and provide a great way for children to learn the fundamental skills of swimming. Visit www.parklandcounty.com/Pool to learn more.

PROJECT UPDATES

A complete list of projects can be found at
www.parklandcounty.com/Infrastructure

Bylaw Restricting use of Fertilizers in Subdivisions near Parkland County Waterbodies

Parkland County is considering a bylaw that will prohibit residents living alongside waterbodies in the County from using fertilizer.

The proposed bylaw's intent is to protect our waterbodies' health by reducing the impact of fertilizers. Fertilizers have harmful components that can run off into the water, resulting in increased nutrient loading in the water. This causes increased growth of vegetation, reducing oxygen levels in the water and resulting in fish killings, blue green algae blooms and eventual dead zones in the waterbody.

Visit yourparkland.ca/fertilizer for more information and timelines on this initiative.



Update for Township Road 524 (Mink Lake Road), Highway 770 to Range Road 25:

Contractor returned mid-May and will be working into mid-summer. Remaining work to be completed includes landscaping, placement of a second lift of asphalt, sign installation and pavement markings.

Impacts to Mink Lake Campground and Star Lake are expected to be minimal.

To follow this project and others happening around the County, visit www.yourparkland.ca

Municipal Development Plan Project

The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) is a high-level plan that establishes a vision for the County's growth over the next 30 years. It sets future direction by identifying where different types of growth and development will occur, including residential, employment, recreation and community service development.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Stage 2 Engagement this spring. Feedback for this engagement stage is now closed. This feedback will inform recommendations for updating our existing Municipal Development Plan policies. A summary of Stage 2 is publicly available on the project webpage.

The next stages will showcase drafts and provide an opportunity for the community to submit feedback prior to draft completion. The finalized draft will also be shared with the public prior to the document going to Public Hearing.

Learn more and subscribe for project updates at www.yourparkland.ca/MDP

MONTHLY ONLINE CHATS WITH A PLANNER

Join the project team for informal chats about the MDP Project and ask any questions you may have. More details can be found on the project webpage.

- July 17, August 14 and September 18

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE: DRAFT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SHOWCASE

We want your input! Come check out the Draft Municipal Development Plan and have your say prior to Public Hearing and Council approvals.

- July 23
- Drop in anytime from 5 – 8 pm
- Parkland County Centre

Wabamun Waterfront Project

This summer, planning your trip to Wabamun might require a slight adjustment as the hamlet's Waterfront Park undergoes some exciting upgrades!

You can expect to see a revitalized spray park, updated facilities and a refreshed beachfront in 2025.

DURING CONSTRUCTION:

- No beach or spray park access once construction starts in summer 2024.
- Reduced public parking.
- Boat water access and pier remain open.
- Marina boat launch unaffected.
- Public boat launch remains open. Scheduled repairs will occur later in the season to address issues with the pads.

In addition, this summer there are necessary wastewater upgrades happening throughout the Hamlet. Due to the non-invasive construction method being used on this project, we're expecting minimal interruptions to traffic and service levels.

Visit yourparkland.ca/wabamun for construction details and timelines.



LAND USE BYLAW REDESIGN

A Land Use Bylaw (LUB) regulates how and where land within a municipality develops and is key to implementing the Municipal Development Plan.

This project is currently in Phase Two: Draft LUB and round two engagement. Work on this phase is ongoing and a draft LUB is expected to be completed this summer.

The final phase of the project will include showcasing the final proposed LUB and providing an opportunity for the community to submit feedback prior to final approval. The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires the adoption of the LUB through a formal process. This process will involve three readings at Parkland County Council and one Public Hearing.

Learn more and subscribe for project updates at www.yourparkland.ca/lub



Acheson Intersection Improvements

Two intersections on Highway 16A will be improved throughout 2024. The intersections are at Spruce Valley Road and at Bevington Road/Pinchbeck Road. Improvements will include an



increase in acceleration/deceleration lanes, improved turning lane and channelization, new streetlights and traffic signal lights. The intersection at Bevington Road/Pinchbeck Road will also include realignment to one single location (versus two intersections as current).

Final approvals have taken place and the preconstruction meeting is completed. Equipment mobilization will be occurring and construction will officially kick off for 2024. Continued work on detours and traffic disruption notifications will be developed.

Estimated completion date is October 2024.

For more information, visit www.yourparkland.ca/Acheson

SHORT-TERM PROPERTY RENTALS — A GROWING TREND

Over the last several years, Parkland County has seen an increase in short-term rentals such as Airbnb and Vrbo. These rentals are in high demand for the tourists and visitors we welcome every year. It is important to note that these short-term rentals are primarily for residential use, not for hosting events or large gatherings.

NOISE CONTROL FOR COMMUNITY HARMONY:

Like any other residence in the County, please respect your neighbours. In line with our Community Standards Bylaw, we kindly request that guests keep the noise level down during their stay. This ensures a harmonious coexistence with the local community.

Please ensure your **guests** follow these rules.

PARKING PLANNING:

Inform your guests about where they may or may not be permitted to park while staying at your short-term rental. All guests are required to comply with the Parkland County Traffic Bylaw.

WASTE AND RECYCLING:

Please ensure your guests have access to dispose of garbage, recycling and composting properly during their stay.

PARKLAND COUNTY PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

Hosts planning to develop a secondary or garden suite must obtain a Development Permit and Building Permit before starting any construction. If you are looking to accommodate a short-term residential rental within your home, such as adding a new bedroom or finishing a basement, a Building Permit is also required. Visit www.parklandcounty.com/PlanIt to apply online.



DON'T FORGET! PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE JUNE 30, 2024

You can pay in person at our office, at your bank, through online banking (use your roll number as your account number), by mailing a cheque, using our 24-hour drop-box (located near the front door of Parkland County Centre), or by signing up for our monthly payment plan (the same cost split over 12 months).

If paying at your bank or online, please allow 3 business days for your payment to reach us.

If you drop-off or mail-in your payment, please include the remittance slip from your tax notice.

Pursuant to Section 311 and 336 of the Municipal Government Act, Notice is hereby given that the combined 2024 Property Assessment & Taxation Notices for Parkland County were sent on May 16, 2024.



BUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Is your business in need of a little love and attention? Fund your glow up with the support of Parkland County's Business Revitalization Program. The program, back for the second year, is tailored to enhance the visual appeal of storefronts across the County.

Business owners, this is your chance to shine! Apply now and qualify for matching funding up to 50% of your project's total cost, capped at \$3,500. Projects must improve the look and feel of our community. Hurry, as funding is limited and allocated on a first come, first served basis.

To learn more about the Program and apply online, visit www.parklandcounty.com/BRB or email us at economicdiversification@parklandcounty.com

OHV FIRE SAFETY



- Before you ride, clean out hot spots and remove debris from your machine.
- After riding through muskeg or tall grass, stop and remove any build-up from your machine.
- Carry firefighting equipment such as a small shovel, collapsible pail or fire extinguisher.
- Wash your OHV and keep it clean — do not wash in streams and creeks.
- Make sure your muffler and spark arrestor are working properly.
- Stop frequently. Take the time to knock debris from your machine's hot spots. If the debris is smouldering, soak it, stir it and soak it again to make sure it is extinguished.

OHV operators should not ride on other people's property unless they have received permission from the property owner. Unauthorized riding is trespassing, against the law and damaging to crops, fences and other valuable items.

www.parklandcounty.com/OHV

FIRES AND FIREWORKS

Gathering around the campfire this summer? If your fire pit is less than 1.5 metres in diameter, no fire permit is required (with or without a screen). If your fire permit is larger than 1.5 metres in diameter, a permit is required.

CONSUMER FIREWORKS REQUIRE A PERMIT

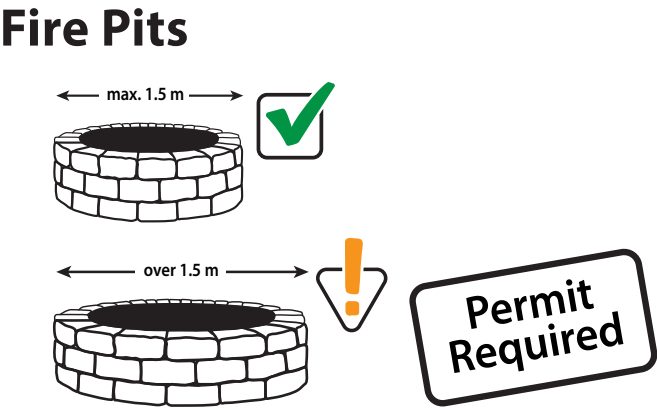
Both campfires and fireworks are prohibited during a fire ban. Please always check the fire hazard rating on our website.

www.parklandcounty.com/FirePermit

Consumer Fireworks



Permit Required



Golf courses in Parkland County



Find your next adventure
on the all new **ExploreParkland.com**

Are you a tourism business in the County? We'd love your feedback.
Connect with us at economicdiversification@parklandcounty.com